

MOTION BY MAYOR MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH

MARCH 3, 2015

CREDIT CARD SURCHARGE ON PROPERTY TAX PAYMENTS

Currently, Los Angeles County residents are required to pay 2.1% surcharge and \$5.95 fee when they use a credit card to pay their property taxes. As credit cards have become an increasingly convenient way of managing ones personal expenditures, a greater amount of residents have elected or wish to utilize credit cards for payment of their county property taxes. However, with property taxes often running off of a four-, five-, or six- figure base amount (particularly for our small businesses), the 2.1% surcharge has proven financially unfeasible or unpractical for many property owners.

As it has always remained the goal of this government to provide services for the citizens of Los Angeles County in the most expedient way possible, this Board should proactively reassess the value and purpose of charging taxpayers a substantial fee on a payment method that has become so mainstream and widespread. Given the hefty tax burden many of our county's residents and businesses already face on the federal, state, and local level, the County should do its part to ensure that the taxpaying process is as streamlined and effortless as possible.

I, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors direct the Interim Chief Executive Officer, Treasurer-Tax Collector, and County Counsel to report back to the Board on the:

1. feasibility to eliminate or significantly lower the surcharge our Treasurer-Tax Collector's office mandates for all credit card transactions on property taxes; and
2. the fiscal impact of eliminating or reducing the aforementioned credit card surcharge in increments of 0.1%.

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